National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education in Gujarat

3745. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the progress of National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly known as Mid-day meal Scheme, in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has miserably failed in the State;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective measures being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) An evaluation study to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (popularly called Mid-Day Meals Scheme) was undertaken by Operations Research Group, New Delhi, an independent agency. In respect of Gujarat, the findings state that the programme has made positive impact on attendance and retention of children in primary classes (I-V).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Reorientation of the Methodology of Teaching

3746. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: (a) whether NCERT has made any proposal for changing the system of evaluation and reorientation of the methodology of teaching and syllabi for imparting job-oriented skills into the youths, to generate self- employment ability;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the scheme for best utilisation of inherent capability of those students who do not prove well in examinations, but are otherwise talented in particular field of activity and pulling without any opportunity for vocational training; and

(c) the other plans, if any, to prepare students to face the present and future uncertainty of assured employment?